







## AN IMPORTANT TRIAL.

The verdict of murder in the first degree rendered by the jury in the case of Olds on Thursday evening is practically the conclusion of a most important trial. It was an important trial, in the first place, because it allayed the fears of many good citizens that a red-handed murderer could not be convicted against the combined influence and efforts of the gamblers and the law to secure his acquittal. Good citizens left it to Olds to be acquitted or not, and he was safe who was an obstacle or a serious vexation to the gambling fraternity and the "right bower" of the buck they shuffles to beat the public and politics, the police. The counsel for Olds argued that his client was either guilty of murder or was entitled to a trial. The jury took him at his word and have rendered a verdict of murder in the first degree.

What is murder legally defined? It is the killing of a human being with malice afore-thought, expressed or implied. The ingredient which distinguishes murder from manslaughter is that of malice. Manslaughter is the unlawful killing of a human being without malice, expressed or implied. The question for the jury to decide is whether the killing of Weber by Olds, was done with a malicious, wicked and depraved purpose, or was it done under circumstances of provocation sufficient to reduce the character of the felony from murder to manslaughter? Was there proof sufficient to convince the jury that Olds was not malice, but that it was done in sudden heat and passion and under sufficient provocation, if not in self-defense?

The testimony was sufficient to prove that Olds was not trying to avoid Weber, but actually waylaid him on the route which Weber was accustomed to travel to his dinner. There was ample testimony that Olds went there armed and had his hand in his pocket grasping his pistol, ready for use, and opened the alteration with Weber; and finally it was proved that Olds shot Weber when Weber's back was turned in the effort to escape from Olds. The fact that Olds opened fire on a man who was not advancing upon him, but was moving away from him, turned to the slayer, would be enough to have been sufficient to have convicted Olds of murder without other malice, and in our judgment Olds' own testimony was fatal to his case.

The testimony offered as to the "quest" career of Olds was of no sort of consequence when confronted with the positive testimony that he waylaid Weber, forced a quarrel with him, shot him when his back was turned to him and continued to the slayer, would be enough to have been sufficient to have convicted Olds of murder without other malice, and in our judgment Olds' own testimony was fatal to his case.

Napoleon III. in 1859 came under the personal influence of Mr. Cobden, founder of the famous English free trade system, and Cobden succeeded in converting the emperor and his Collins, to talk over the future plans of the party. The older public has not been taken into confidence, but we have a strong suspicion regarding some of the conclusions at which the conference arrived. Randolph will be brought back into the fold and Henry Watson silenced. Tammany and county democracy must be made to smoke the pipe of peace. The Standard Oil Company must be induced to grease more liberally the wheels of party machinery. David B. Hill must be maneuvered, and a scheme put on foot to capture the new states for the democratic party. The most difficult task to accomplish will be to show that the attempt to foist free trade on the country was only a joke, and yet keep the South in line for 1860. Business is indeed brisk at the old Jeffersonian stand.

The *World Sun* also comes out with the statement that "it matters not, so far as labor wages are concerned, whether the laborer is white or black, with or without a wife and children, or with or without a wife and children." This is the position which the democratic press is driven by to desire to justify the suppression of the labor vote of the South. It has been supposed, however, that the votes of the laboring classes were a potent factor in forming and directing the financial and industrial policy of the country, and therefore that the right of suffrage was a thing of value to labor. But the democratic press, it seems, is moved by its partiality for Southern practices to deny this conclusion.

The breeding of cattle has assumed such proportions in this country, that it is a source of wonder that the English capital floating about has not secured control of this industry. In 1869 the number of cattle was 8,881,735; oxen and other cattle, 16,031,284. In 1880 the number of cattle, 15,298,626, valued at \$96,426,739; the number of oxen and other cattle, 21,417,089, valued at \$97,254,589. Breeders have kept increasing the number of cattle by the importation of blooded stock, and there is not the slightest danger of any decline in production.

Up to May 19 the total number of immigrants that embarked from Irish ports was 1,400, and 58 per cent. of these came to the United States. Eighty per cent. were between the ages of 15 and 35, and about 30 per cent. over 30 and the same per centage under 15 years of age.

A commission was organized to investigate the subject, and after reports were had from all branches of industry, a new tariff was formulated and became a law in 1881. The centiment in favor of protection had changed, and a number of other failures had vastly increased imports and decreased exports. In addition to this the reorganization of the French army and navy, subsidies to steamships, the interest on the bonds under the new system had become so unprofitable that the report of the investigating committee was never published, although some of the members thereof stated that the conclusions arrived at would have suggested the advisability of returning to the protective tariff system.

Secondly, this trial was a most important case, in that it judicially verified the street reports that have been current for months that our police force was not only inefficient, as everybody knew, but was corrupt to a degree that was not generally known. The infamous condition of the police no longer rests on the rumors of the sidewalk; it is no longer simply a matter of fact, but a solemn conviction on the part of the few; it is no longer just to whistle it down the wind, as nothing but the basest insinuation of enemies of the police board seeking to try it by newspaper.

The present undignified infamy of the police data from this trial, in which it has been acknowledged and sworn to by the police themselves under the stress of judicial oath. Weber and protected his rivals in the same "business," that the gamblers and prostitutes pay them blackmail in shape of bush money; that they, while pretending to be honest and believe in moralities, the most Olds, made no effort to place Weber under restraint than Olds himself, leaves the police in a worse compete. The result was that would more completely if it did not excite bitter moral contempt, not unmix with justifiable fear that the public have not yet been acquainted with the full measure of their corrupt and vicious practices.

It ought to be not only a source of shame, but a source of alarm to all persons who have any moral pride of citizenship, or property interests in Portland, to know that the police are the shield of gamblers and other outlaws; that they are so ready that they bring from the hands of these outlaws the victim of their lives, and turn crime into drachmas in return for slating their due to its rampant life and notorious commission.

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Members of the police force, who under the sharp pressure of cross-examination disclosed the fact that they had been working the livery of the police to serve the gamblers in, got a well-merited castigation at the hands of the district attorney in his final summing up of the evidence in the Olds case. There is reason to believe, however, that the epidermis of these policemen, "special and regular," is wholly impervious to the shafts of truth, the sting of sarcasm or harsh rebuke, as they are to the sharp and stinging words of an attorney.

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The official report of Major Handbury, as published in The Oregonian yesterday, showing the progress of the government works under his supervision on the Cascades, looks for the fiscal year just ended, illustrates again the magnitude of the work undertaken to overcome the natural barriers to the commerce of the Columbia. The nature of the obstacles to be overcome by engineering skill and labor has rendered the progress of the work slow to the seeming of the general public, eager as it is for an open river, to which it has long looked to life the embargo on the inland commerce of the state, and understanding only in a general way the government had undertaken to furnish the relief; but to those who appreciate the magnitude of the work, the barriers to be overcome and the fact that the appropria-

## NEW TO-DAY.

\$25,000.00

Have been expended on approaches, tracks, docks and wharves.

18 HOUSES

Have been started and number of them completed.

A LARGE FORCE

Of merrymaking and revelry is vigorously pursued the work forward, and late at night.

MONEY MORE DATES

The town of LINNSTON will have become the most important commercial point between Portland and Tacoma.

LINNSTON is positively gold city.

For maps and full information call at the town or on BORDELLA'S.

No. 2, Washington St.

A. C. WILSON, 1825 Washington St.&lt;/









